

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An imaging unit mounted on a compact portable terminal equipment, the imaging unit comprising:

(a) a flexible printed circuit board having two sides and an opening portion at a predetermined position;

(b) an imaging element which is connected, by flip-chip mounting, to one side of said circuit board so as to cover at least part of the opening portion and expose an imaging area;

(c) a reinforcing member which is made of a ~~non-metallic~~ glass or ceramic material having a linear expansion coefficient of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  (cm/cm/°C) or less and is attached to the other side of said circuit board to reinforce said circuit board; and

(d) an optical member which is provided to guide object light from a surface on the reinforcing member side to the imaging area of said imaging element through the opening portion.

Claims 2-6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) The imaging unit according to claim 1, wherein when said reinforcing member is to be attached to said flexible printed circuit board, a thermosetting adhesive is used.

8. (Previously Presented) The imaging unit according to claim 1, wherein said flexible printed circuit board includes no adhesive layer between a base matrix and a copper layer.

9. (Currently Amended) An imaging unit mounted on a compact portable terminal equipment, the imaging unit comprising:

(a) a flexible printed circuit board having two sides and an opening portion at a predetermined position;

(b) an imaging element which is connected, by flip-chip mounting, to one side of said circuit board so as to cover at least part of the opening portion and expose an imaging area;

(c) a reinforcing member which is made of a ~~non-metallic~~ glass or ceramic material having a linear expansion coefficient of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  (cm/cm/°C) or less and is attached to the other side of said circuit board to reinforce said circuit board; and

(d) an optical member which is provided to guide object light from a surface on the reinforcing member side to the imaging area of said imaging element through the opening portion;

wherein notched portions are formed in the opening portion of said flexible printed circuit board.

10. (Currently Amended) A portable terminal equipment ~~characterized by mounting~~ comprising an imaging unit defined in claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The imaging unit according to claim 9, wherein when said reinforcing member is to be attached to said flexible printed circuit board, a thermosetting adhesive is used.

12. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The imaging unit according to claim 9, wherein said flexible printed circuit board includes no adhesive layer between a base matrix and a copper layer.

13. (Currently Amended) A portable terminal equipment ~~characterized by mounting~~ comprising an imaging unit defined in claim 9.